

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2887

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LA, TH

SUBJECT: THAI-LAO RELATIONS

REF: FBIS BK160241Y OCT 1975

1. AS THAI JOURNALISTS AND VISITORS RETURN TO BANGKOK FROM THE OCTOBER 12 LAO INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN VIENTIANE, A NUMBER OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ARE APPEARING ON THEIR IMPRESSIONS AND CONVERSATIONS.

2. AN ARTICLE IN THE NATION OF OCTOBER 16 (REF) QUOTES LAO PRESSE DIRECTOR KHAMPHOU MUANGSINGH AS STATING THAT THERE WILL NEVER BE A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THAILAND AND LAOS UNTIL ALL AMERICAN FORCES ARE WITHDRAWN, WHICH HE DOES NOT BELIEVE WILL OCCUR BY NEXT MARCH. COUNTERED BY A THAI JOURNALIST WITH THE PROPOSAL THAT ALL FOREIGN PERSONNEL SHOULD ALSO LEAVE LAOS, AS WELL, THE OFFICIAL SAID THE RUSSIANS ARE THERE TO HELP THE LAO PEOPLE AND TEACH THEM ABOUT WEAPONS, AS OPPOSED TO THE AMERICAN ROLE. HE SAID THE RTG CONTAINS A GROUP WHICH IS FRIENDLY TO LAOS AND ANOTHER WHICH IS UNFRIENDLY.

3. A SEPARATE ARTICLE IN THE SAME PAPER NOTES THAT UNITED SOCIALIST FRONT MP THONGPAK RIENGKET MET WITH LAO

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PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER SINGKAPO COUNRAMANY DURING THE

FESTIVITIES. SINGKAPO REPORTEDLY TOLD HIM THAT CON-
FRONTATION ON THE MEKONG SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY TALKS BET-
WEEN OFFICIALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A JOINT THAI-LAO COMMITTEE. SINGKAPO SAID LAOS WOULD
WELCOME BACK "WARRIOR" REFUGEES BUT NOT "CAPITALIST" REFU-
GEES.

WHITEHOUSE

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